

ROTARY

2/26/74

Couldn't think of formal talk

Know all too well

Just here 13 months ago

Therefore - brief remarks and questions

In past 13 months have been important changes 3 fronts  
interest to us

NWC - 1st year and 1/2 under belt-new year going well

Newport - Sea component withdrawn new character to

USN in Newport shaping up

World Scene

Gone optimism - perhaps over-optimism

on detente - Mid East War and Energy Crisis

Skepticism - questioning how all be going

so well with old opponent - so many problems

Touch Briefly on Detente

1. Was over-optimism - expected too much too fast

Washington correspondent

2. Why?

Looked at detente from our point of view -

assumed Soviets view was same

Our viewpoint - 2 reasons

I. Rational thing to do

1. Tension one hand - vast stocks of

nuclear weapons other - can see danger

2. We have no ambitions or unfulfilled needs that require competition with Soviets

Perfectly happy forego

3. Despite Cold War years, we really do not stand in fear of Soviet Union

Partly because we have been superior militarily and economically all these years

Partly because never been attacked or invaded at home

- II. 2nd Reason - revulsion to Vietnam - pushed emotionally thrust into detente - opportunities appeared to offer

Did these conditions exist in Soviet Union -

- I Emotional? - No. Public opinion not allowed to give emotional thrust to policy

- II. Rational?

1. Soviet homeland invaded repeatedly-chary of entrusting future to another's good will or intentions.
2. Soviets clearly have external ambitions
  - In part from ideological belief that until capitalism suppressed everywhere it will be aggressive.

- In part because they have not been the global power we have in past 30 years -
- We humiliated them - from their point of view in Lebanon '58, Cuba and Berlin in '62 and in North Vietnam in '72.

Today moving toward global power status - as emerge from being continental power into maritime power-project around globe - not just across frontiers

Why did Soviets accept detente?

Because we wanted to play in that game -

Because they saw tactical advantages - such as easing pressure on one front while dealt with China on other.

But - this means that detente can mean different things to each of us - without casting accusations of disingenuousness in either direction

To Soviets means shifting competition with us to non-military arenas

Must expect continued competition

Must expect Soviets to overreact if tempted

Did in Mid East when things going well for Egypt

Did in grain deal - not understand our reaction

Did on suppression of dissent

Analogy to faithfulness to wife

Easy - no opportunity

We must not provide them opportunities

In part means remaining militarily strong.

One facet of that strength particularly important  
deterrent impact of our peacetime readiness and to show  
our military force around world.

Do not want to fracture detente by having to restrain

Soviets with military force

Want to eliminate any temptation -

Make clear have power and will to make it costly

Special emphasis on Naval forces - we ones can best go around

world and demonstrate our interests and capabilities to  
support those interests.

As said last time - more difficult for military officer understand  
complexities of deterrent impact of military force than its  
warfighting potential

Deterrence -

Psychological

Perceptions

Warfighting

Hardware

Tactics

Morale

} Basics of our trade

Why Naval War College is here to stay - increasingly important

to have officers who can understand these complexities

War College here to stay in Newport

Yesterday - Connolly move

Hewitt coming along

Why 1 April NETC, Newport

Predict expanding role of education and training in  
Navy - and within Navy at Newport